ROBERT GREENE STERNE
EDWARD J KESSLER
JORGE A GOLDSTEIN
SAMUEL L FOX
DALE KE CORNWELL
ROBERT W ESMOND
TRACY GENE G DURKIN
MICHELE A CIMBALA
MICHAEL B RAY
ROBERT E SOKOHL
ERIC K STEFFE
MICHAEL Q LEE
STEVEN R LUDWIG

M ROBERT
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HEID L KRAUS
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PATRICK D O'BREN
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CRYSTAL D SAYLES

EDWARD W YEE
ALBERT L FERRO
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TERESA U MEDLER
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MATTHEW J DOWD
AARON L SCHWARTZ

* LIMITED TO MATTERS
AND PROCEEDINGS BEFORE
FEDERAL COURTS & AGENCIES
** REGISTERED PATENT AGENT
*** OF COUNSEL

January 10, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit 1651

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Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
        Appl. No. 09/631,638; Filed: August 2, 2000
        For: **Process for the Recovery of Organic Acids**
        Inventors: Moore *et al.*
        Our Ref: 1533.0980001/SRL/PAJ

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1.   Reply to Restriction Requirement and Preliminary Amendment; and

2.   One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

STERNE. KESSLER. GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency. or credit any overpayment. to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted.
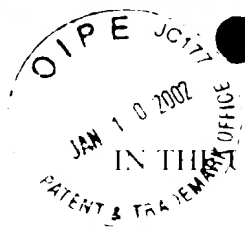
STERNE. KESSLER. GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Peter A. Jackman
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 45.986

SRL/PAJ:kim
Enclosures
P: USERS KSACRE PAJackman 1533 0980001 CvrLtr

In re application of:	Confirmation No.: 8662
Moore and Sanborn	Art Unit: 1651
Appl. No. 09/631,638	Examiner: Naff, D.
Filed: August 2, 2000	Atty. Docket: 1533.0980001 SRL/PAJ
For: **Process for the Recovery of Organic Acids**	

Reply to Restriction Requirement and Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated December 10, 2001 (Prosecution History Paper No. 7), requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect, without traverse, to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 1-31. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

In advance of substantive examination, Applicants also submit the following Preliminary Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

1.   A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;

2.   Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37 C.F.R. § 1.115 and M.P.E.P. § 714; and